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13 Attorneys for defendants Consumer Law
14 Associates, LLC; Jimmy Persels and Neil
15 Ruther

16 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
17 EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

18 KENNETH R. BROWN, individually
19 and on behalf of a Class of similarly
20 situated Washington residents,

21 Plaintiff,

22 v.

23 CONSUMER LAW ASSOCIATES
24 LLC, a Maryland Limited Liability
25 Company; JIMMY B. PERSELS, a
26 Maryland Attorney; NEIL J. RUTHER,
a Maryland Attorney; DR OPTIONS
LLC d/b/a DEBT RELIEF OPTIONS
LLC, a Texas Limited Liability
Company; EFA PROCESSING L.P., a
Texas Limited Partnership and JOHN
AND JANE DOES 1-20

Defendants.

No. CV-11-194-LRS

DECLARATION OF NEIL J.
RUTHER

[Class Action]

NEIL J. RUTHER, hereby declares as follows:

DECLARATION OF NEIL J. RUTHER - 1

1 1. I am over the age of 18 years and have personal knowledge of the
2 matters and facts set forth herein.

3
4 2. I am a resident of the State of Maryland and have been a member of
5 the Bar of the State of Maryland since 1976.

6 3. I served as the Managing Member of the law firm Consumer
7 Associates LLC ("CLA"). CLA is a law firm offering extensive unbundled legal
8 services to clients across the United States, including Washington.

9
10 4. CLA was organized in Maryland in 2007 as a limited liability
11 company. The other member of CLA is Lisa L. Perrillo, who resides in the State
12 of North Carolina. CLA has no other members or owners.


13
14 5. CLA stopped accepting new clients in September of 2010. Between
15 2007 and September of 2010, CLA had approximately 178 field attorneys licensed
16 to practice in all 50 states, including five attorneys licensed to practice in the State
17 of Washington.

18
19 6. Between 2007 and September 2010, CLA provided legal services to
20 894 clients who were residents of Washington State in matters related to their
21 unsecured debt, and received \$2,658,711.35 in fees from those clients.

22
23 7. I had no knowledge of the filing of this case prior to the time it was
24 served on CLA's resident agent in the State of Washington on April 27, 2011.
25
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DECLARATION OF NEIL J. RUTHER - 2

1
2 I hereby declare and affirm under the penalties of perjury under the laws of
3 the States of Maryland and Washington, that the contents of the aforesaid
4 declaration are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and
5 belief.
6

7
8 
9 NEIL J. RUTHER
10 AT: Baltimore, Md.
11 DATED: MAY 10 2011
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DECLARATION OF NEIL J. RUTHER - 3

Certificate of Service

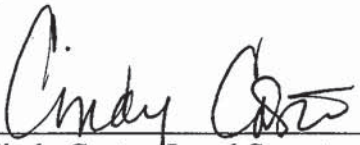
I, Cindy Castro, certify that at all times mentioned herein, I was and am a resident of the state of Washington, over the age of eighteen years, not a party to the proceeding or interested therein, and competent to be a witness therein. My business address is that of Stoel Rives LLP, 3600 One Union Square, 600 University Street, Seattle, Washington 98101.

On May 16, 2011, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing document to be served on counsel of record for plaintiffs in the above-captioned action by pdf/email and by U. S. mail:

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Matthew J. Zuchetto
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DATED: MAY 16, 2011.


Cindy Castro, Legal Secretary

DECLARATION OF NEIL J. RUTHER - 4